

January 9, 2008

To: The Transportation Safety Board – Section of Environmental Analysis

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to strongly urge you to deny the proposed acquisition by Canadian National Railroad Co. which would significantly increase freight train traffic through downtown Barrington.

I live with my family in Tower Lakes which is directly north of downtown Barrington. We have lived here for 15 years and have come to travel to and through downtown Barrington multiple times each day on Routes 59 and 14 for virtually all of our life support services: school, medical, post office, library, bank, culture, commuter train and shopping. Traffic to and from downtown Barrington is already extremely congested on a daily basis and has grown steadily worse over the time we have lived here.

The proposed acquisition would criss-cross two major North American railroads over Barrington's three major roads all at the same time within the space of one mile. Traffic through Barrington on Routes 59, 14 and 12 comes from as far north as Fox Lake and Round Lake Beach and from the Northwest as far as Crystal Lake. All of this traffic is making its way to Interstate 90 or to the train station. Blocking these roads would turn our already overcrowded roads into virtual parking lots. In addition, the other two at-grade crossings constitute the other two possible avenues in and out of town, and the same train will block these streets within minutes of blocking the other three. Traffic will be at a standstill: commutes will be excessively delayed, emergency vehicles will be stalled and school buses will be stuck.

This proposal places an undue burden on all of us who live north of downtown Barrington and once again I strongly urge you to deny this proposed action.

Regards,



Mark Leitner
219 East Lake Shore Drive
Tower Lakes, IL 60010

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